Amount spent on VIP treatment by CGHS

1160. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) The amount spent through CGHS on the treatment abroad and the travelling allowance etc. on VIPs and their attendants during the last three years, year-wise ending 31st March, 2005;

(b) The actual number of VIPs who received treatment abroad during the above period, year-wise;

(c) How does this expenditure compare with the total budgetary provision of the CGHS, year-wise; and

(d) The steps Government propose to take so as to reduce the expenditure on treatment of VIPs outside the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The amount spent through CGHS on the treatment abroad and the travelling allowance etc. on VIP and their attendants during the last three years, year-wise ending 31st March, 2005 are as under:-

Year	Amount spent
2002-2003	Rs. 14,19,059
2003-2004	Rs. 31,74,390
2004-2005	Rs. 26,34,886
Total:	Rs. 72,28,335

(b) The actual number of VIPs who received treatment through CGHS abroad during the above period, year-wise are as under:-

Year	No. of VIPs who took treatment
2003	2
2004	2
2005	3

(c) The expenditure compared to budgetary provisions is as follows:-

Year	Percentange (of total budget) expenditure on VIPs treatment abroad	Budgetary Provision (in crores)
2002-03	0.04	330
2003-04	0.09	343
2004-05	0.05	511.5

(d) Standing Committee constituted in M/o Health & Family Welfare gives recommendations to concerned Ministries/Depatement/Government agencies including Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Sectt. for treatment abroad of such VIPs whose treatment is not available in the country. From CGHS budget only expenditure as explained in reply to part (a) above has been incurred for the last three years so there is no proposal to reduce the expenditure on treatment of VIPs outside the country.

Upgradation of rural hospitals and health infrastructure

1161. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to focus on up-gradation of block and district level hospitals;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry is also planning to launch a pilot project of universal health insurance in the country;

(c) whether under the Rural Health Mission Rs. 6,700 crores have been allocated for this year to ensure that health infrastructure in rural areas improves;

(d) if so, the other measures being considered for improving the health infrastructure in rural areas;

(e) the total public care centre in the country; and

(f) the extent to which these measures have helped in improving the health-care in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The block level and district level hospitals are to be upgraded to Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS).

(b) NRHM seeks to make available assured health care at reduced financial risks through pilots of Community Health Insurance under the Mission.

(c) The budget outlay for National Rural Health Mission for 2005-06 is Rs. 6731.16 crores.

(d) to (f) At present there are 142655 Sub-centres, 23109 Primary health Centres and 3222 Community Health Centres functioning in the country. NRHM seeks to strengthen Sub-centres by provision of untied funds of Rs. 10,000/- per year which would be operated by the ANM and the